

NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Carol A. Murray, Commissioner

For Immediate Release

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PUBLIC MEETINGS SET FOR STATE TRAILS PLAN

FIVE SESSIONS STATEWIDE BETWEEN MAY 3 AND MAY 13

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) and the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED) announce the scheduling of five public meetings across the state to present information and receive input on the development of a State Trails Plan.

The scope of the project is as follows:

To develop a joint NHDOT/DRED State Trails Plan by inventorying and mapping all bicycle/pedestrian projects and developed/undeveloped rail corridors; developing a statewide short range and long range plan for the integration of recreational/transportation trails with rail corridors and other bicycle/pedestrian facilities; developing design guidance for bicycle/pedestrian and recreational trail improvements; and developing policies with regard to funding, developing and maintaining transportation and recreational trails.

Public Meeting Schedule

May 3, 2004 - Keene Public Library, 60 Winter Street, Keene (6:30 PM)

May 5, 2004 - Red Barn (next to North Country Council Offices), 107 Glessner Road, Bethlehem (6:30 PM)

May 6, 2004 - Lebanon Senior Center, 10 Campbell Street, Lebanon (6:30 PM)

May 11, 2004 - Portsmouth City Hall, 1 Junkins Avenue, Portsmouth (6:30 PM)

May 13, 2004 - NHDOT, 7 Hazen Drive, Concord (6:30 PM)

The intent of these public meetings is to present information collected on the inventory of existing, planned and potential bicycle paths and rail trails as well as draft NHDOT and Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED) policies on future trail development. Based on the public input, a draft plan will be developed towards the end of May 2004. For more information please visit the project website:

http://www.rizzo.com/nh_state_trails_plan.htm